

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following remarks and the attached Terminal Disclaimer, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-9 were provisionally rejected on the ground of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over Claims 1-6 of co-pending U.S. Application Serial No. 10/576,489 (Tasaki).

Applicant respectfully submits the attached Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the above-noted provisional rejection on the ground of obviousness-type double patenting. Accordingly, withdrawal of the provisional rejection is respectfully requested.

Consequently, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner disagree, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss any remaining issues. Otherwise, an early and favorable allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

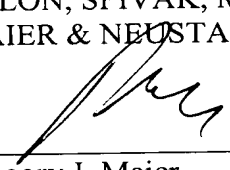
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Respectfully submitted,

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